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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Frank W. Veit, David W. Zeitler, PhD, Rhonda J. Verploegen,

Andrew R. Black, Charles W. Bozarth and

Clyde Miin-Arng Ko

For

POSITIVE DISPLACEMENT SHOE AND SLAT SORTER

APPARATUS AND METHOD

Atty Docket No.

RAP04 P-574C

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, Applicants wish to amend their application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in a listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 23 of this paper.